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Rural District of Hiraethog



ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health :

M. JONES ROBERTS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
THE CLINIC, MIDDLE LANE, DENBIGH.

Tel. No. : Denbigh 289.

Public Health Inspector :

J SETH ROBERTS, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., M.R.I.P.H.H.,
COUNCIL OFFICES, " AVONDALE," LLANRWST.

Tel. No. : Llanrwst 68.

for the year 1956

To the Chairman and Members of The Hiraethog Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the health of the Rural District for the year 1956.

During the year, the Sanitary Inspectors (Change of Designation) Act, 1956, was passed. This provides that in future, the Sanitary Inspector shall be designated Public Health Inspector.

A great deal of publicity has been given to the location of the District Medical Officer's office. This arose following my request for better office accommodation. At the present time, the office consists of one room at the County Health Clinic at Denbigh, which is also occupied by my clerk, and this causes a great deal of inconvenience. It is most difficult to interview anyone, especially if the interview is of a confidential nature ; discuss matters with other officials ; write reports, etc., when the clerk is occupied in typing, answering telephone calls, etc. If there is a clinic, e.g., orthopaedic clinic, ophthalmic clinic, Welsh Board of Health clinic, dental clinic, etc., held in the premises and a doctor occupies the room in which the one and only telephone extension is placed, everyone comes into the office to use the telephone and this makes it impossible for them to do any clerical work during office hours. A partition to divide the room into two would improve matters to a certain extent, but this would not be entirely satisfactory as it would make my office and the clerk's into very small rooms.

The location of the office is a matter entirely for the Western No. 2 District Health Committee to decide on and Denbigh was chosen in the first instance as being the most central for the area as Aled Rural District was then included in the Western No. 2 Health Area. Aled Rural District is now part of the Western No. 1 Health Area, thus Denbigh is no longer the centre of the area, which covers Hiraethog Rural District, Llanrwst Urban District, Ruthin Rural District, Ruthin Borough, and Denbigh Borough. 50% of my time is allocated to County Council duties with the County Health Department at Wrexham.

In the event of my clerk being away, no relief clerk is available. During 1956, she was away on holiday for over two weeks and sick leave for seven weeks during a period of three months. This meant that I had to do all the clerical work as well as my professional work. Had the office been in Ruthin, probably a clerk from the County Offices would have been available to assist with typing, answering the telephone, etc.

The Public Health Inspector and I would like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council and the various Committees for their co-operation during the year and we would thank the other officials and members of the staff for their assistance at all times.

Yours faithfully,

M. JONES ROBERTS

The Chairmen of the Council and Committee during the year were :—
Chairmen of the Council :—

January—May, 1956 : H. R. Jackson, Esq.

June—December, 1956 : David Jones, Esq.

Chairmen of the General Purposes Committee :—

January—May, 1956 : David Jones, Esq.

June—December, 1956 : Evan Roberts, Esq.

Chairmen of the Finance Committee :—

January—May, 1956 : David Jones, Esq.

June—December, 1956 : Evan Roberts, Esq.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT

Area of the District	93,079 acres.
Registrar General's estimated population (mid 1956)	5,090
Number of inhabited houses	1,817
Rateable Value	£42,569
Sum represented by a penny rate	£160

The estimated population for 1956 was 5,090 compared with 5,120 in 1955, a decrease of 30.

DEATHS :

Comparability Factor 0.92

The number of deaths registered during 1956 was 56 (33 Males and 23 Females), compared with 70 deaths (44 Males and 26 Females) registered in 1955.

	England and Wales		
	1956	1955	1956
Crude death rate (per 1,000 population)	11.7	13.67	11.00
Corrected death rate (per 1,000 population)	—	11.75	10.12
Still-birth date	23.0	0.58	0.59
Maternal mortality rate	0.56	NIL	NIL
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	23.8	15.38	38.46

The causes of death are shown in the following table with the number of deaths for 1955 shown for comparison :—

	1955	1956		
	Total	Total	Males	Females
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	—	1	1	—
Tuberculosis—Other	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic Diseases	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	—	—	—
Malignant Diseases :—				
Stomach	7	1	—	1
Lungs, Bronchus	1	1	—	1
Breast	1	—	—	—
Uterus	—	1	—	1
Other	7	3	2	1
Total Cancer Deaths	16	6	2	4
Leukaemia	—	—	—	—
Diabetes	1	—	—	—
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	9	7	3	4
Coronary Diseases	4	12	10	2
Hypertension with heart diseases	2	1	1	—
Other heart diseases	13	13	7	6
Other circulatory diseases	4	—	—	—
Influenza	—	1	1	—
Pneumonia	4	2	2	—
Bronchitis	3	1	1	—
Other respiratory diseases	1	1	—	1
Ulcer of stomach, etc.	—	—	—	—
Gastritis, diarrhoea, etc.	—	—	—	—
Nephritis, nephrosis, etc.	—	—	—	—
Prostatic Hyperplasia	1	—	—	—
Maternal causes	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	—	—	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	9	3	6
Motor vehicle accidents	1	—	—	—
All other accidents	1	1	1	—
Suicide	4	1	1	—
Homicide	—	—	—	—
ALL CAUSES	70	56	33	23

The deaths occurred in the following age groups :—

Under 1 year	3 (1 Males and 2 Females).
1-10 years	NIL.
10-20 years	1 (Female).
20-30 years	NIL.
30-40 years	NIL.
40-50 years	4 (3 Males and 1 Female).
50-60 years	5 (1 Male and 4 Females).
60-70 years	9 (6 Males and 3 Females).
70-80 years	23 (16 Males and 8 Females).
80-90 years	10 (6 Males and 4 Females).
90 years and over	NIL.

Total 56 (33 Males and 4 Females).

Fifty-six deaths occurred during the year compared with 70 in 1955. Of these, 42 occurred in persons aged 60 years and over.

The death rate is 10.12 compared with 11.75 in 1955 and 11.7 for England and Wales.

There were 6 deaths from cancer compared with 16 during the previous year, one of these due to cancer of the lung.

Deaths due to vascular lesions, lesions of the heart, and other circulatory diseases, numbered 33 compared with 32 in 1955. Of these, 12 were due to coronary diseases compared with 4 during the previous year.

Two deaths were caused by pneumonia compared with 4 in 1955 and one death from pulmonary tuberculosis compared with NIL the previous year. There was no death from any other notifiable infectious disease.

There were no deaths due to road accidents, but one accidental death was caused by carbon monoxide poisoning due to the inhalation of fumes from a solid fuel burning stove—this was an accidental death.

There was one suicidal death.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were no maternal deaths, giving a maternal mortality rate of NIL again as in 1955, and compared with 0.56 for England and Wales.

STILL-BIRTHS.

The still-birth rate is 0.59 compared with 0.58 in 1955 and 23.0 for England and Wales.

The number of still-births was three, the same as in the previous year.

INFANT DEATHS.

The infant mortality rate has increased from 15.38 in 1955 to 38.46 in 1956 compared with 23.8 for England and Wales.

The actual number of infant deaths was three compared with one during 1955.

One death occurred at the age of 4 months and was due to Broncho Pneumonia. The child had not attended an Infant Welfare Clinic. It appears from the Health Visitor's report that this death was unavoidable.

One death occurred at the age of 2 days and was due to Congenital Atelectasis and Prematurity. The mother had attended her own doctor for ante-natal supervision. The home conditions were reported to be satisfactory and this death appears to have been unavoidable.

The third death occurred at the age of 2 hours and was due to 1(a) Foetal Asphyxia ; (b) Inhaled liquor ; II, Post Maturity. The mother attended a clinic monthly for her ante-natal supervision until the eighth month. The Health Visitor states that she failed to attend the clinic after that time due to feeling unwell and there was no public transport to the clinic. There is a possibility that this death may have been avoided.

BIRTHS.

Comparability Factor 1.16

The number of births relating to residents in the district was 78 (39 Males and 39 Females) compared with 65 births (36 Males and 29 Females) registered in 1955. The actual number of births registered in the rural district was 6 (2 Males and 4 Females), the remainder having taken place in various hospitals outside the area.

The births were classified as follows :—

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	38	35	73
Illegitimate	1	4	5
Total	39	39	78

	England and Wales	
	1956	1955
Crude birth rate (per 1,000 population)	15.7	12.68
Corrected birth rate (per 1,000 population)	—	14.70

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during 1956 arranged in the various age groups. The number of cases notified in 1955 is given in the first column for comparison :—

Notifiable Diseases	1955 TOTAL	1956 TOTAL	At Ages								Number admitted to Hospital
			Under 1 year	1—5 years	6—15 years	16—25 years	26—45 years	46—65 years	65 years and over	Ages unknown	
Scarlet Fever	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	115	28	1	10	14	1	1	—	—	1	—
Dysentery	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	3	3	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	129	36	2	13	14	3	1	1	1	1	—

The total number of cases of infectious diseases (including tuberculosis) notified during 1956 was 36 compared with 129 cases notified in 1955. The reason for this decrease was that 115 cases of measles were notified during 1955 compared with 28 cases in 1956.

One case of scarlet fever occurred during the year. This was in a child of pre-school age.

There were no cases of whooping cough compared with 9 cases in 1955.

One case of pneumonia occurred in a child under the age of 1 year.

One of the cases of dysentery occurred in a child attending school at Llanrwst where several cases had been notified. The second case was a child of pre-school age who was a contact to the first case.

There were no cases of poliomyelitis, but information was received that a girl contact to a case had come into the area, but fortunately, she did not develop the disease and there were no other cases.

In May, a patient was admitted to hospital suffering from query diphtheria and croup. After investigation, the final diagnosis was one of croup.

3 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and one case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified compared with 3 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in 1955. The lesion in respect of the case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis was in the left hip, but the sample of the milk supply which was sent for biological examination showed no evidence of tubercle bacilli in it.

8 cases of tuberculosis were removed from the register, five patients having recovered, two left the district, and one died.

The following figures show the number of cases of tuberculosis on the register at the beginning and at the end of 1956 :—

	Males	Females	Males	Females	Total
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
Number on register on 1st January, 1956	13	16	2	2	33
Number on register on 31st December, 1956	10	16	1	2	29

Four cases of tuberculosis were admitted to hospitals or sanatoria during the year and three cases were discharged.

The following table indicates the number of inspections and visits carried out by the Public Health Inspector in regard to infectious diseases :

No. of visits re infectious diseases	41
No. of visits re tuberculosis	21
No. of rooms fumigated and disinfected	9
No. of cases where bedding was removed for stoving	4
No. of infectious cases removed to hospital	6
No. of cases where disinfectant used	16

Cases necessitating removal to hospital are usually sent to Colwyn Bay or Wrexham Hospitals. The stoving of bedding is also undertaken at these hospitals, but the Council's own transport has to be utilised. This transportation method is not really satisfactory and it is a pity that the hospitals could not undertake it. The Groesynyd Hospital at Ty'n-y-Groes, Conway, used to supply this together with stoving facilities, but this hospital has now been transferred in use to that of a convalescent wing of the Llandudno General Hospital. This latter step, however, is really one of jubilation, as it is a true sign that Public Health measures are really gaining the upper hand against infection.

PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING COUGH.

There have been no notified cases of diphtheria in the district for years. Diphtheria inoculation is carried out at the same time as the inoculation against whooping cough and the number of inoculations given in the district is shown in the following table, together with the number of cases of whooping cough notified since 1951. These figures may not be strictly accurate as babies are sometimes given the inoculations by their own doctors and these are not always recorded.

Year	Number of births	Number immunised against Diphtheria	Number of booster injections	Number immunised against whooping cough	Number immunised against whooping cough and diphtheria	Number of cases of whooping cough notified
1951	73	64	65	4	9	1-5 years 5 Ages unknown 25 Total 30
1952	83	33	84	12	28	1-5 years 10 5 years and over 5 Total 15
1953	83	11	137	Nil	110	1-5 years 4 5 years and over 1 Total 5
1954	83	7	18	Nil	55	NIL
1955	65	2	51	Nil	36	1-5 years 2 5 years and over 5 Total 7
1956	78	7	99	Nil	62	NIL

SMALLPOX.

Vaccination against smallpox is generally carried out at the clinic at the age of 8 weeks, but some doctors prefer to wait until the child is 3-4 months old. All children should be vaccinated before their first birthday, but the younger the child the less risk there is of any complications.

Number of primary vaccinations given 42

Number of re-vaccinations given 3

The re-vaccinations were in respect of persons going abroad.

POLIOMYELITIS.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis was undertaken during the months of May and June, 1956, and the number given the injections was as follows :—

Number completed the course of injections 19

Number given only one injection 1

The two injections were given with three weeks interval between them. There was not sufficient vaccine to vaccinate all the children whose parents had given consent, therefore certain groups of children were chosen. These were children born in the months of November and March, 1947-1954 (inclusive). Those born in August and October were then vaccinated and those born in May if vaccine was available.

Vaccination was discontinued after 30th June so that no risk was taken during the season when poliomyelitis becomes prevalent. Children who had received only one injection were given the second injection in November.

No child who received the injections complained of illness or any ill effect following the vaccination and all the children appear to have been well. Of course, no risks were taken. Any child who attended for the injection but who suffered from colds, asthma, hay fever, had been in direct contact with any infectious disease, tuberculosis, etc., or those who had had any other prophylactic injection during the previous three weeks, was not given the injection. When vaccination against poliomyelitis is commenced again in 1957, priority will be given to children whose parents have already given their consent.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The Mass Radiography Unit did not visit the district during the year.

No prophylactic injection, i.e., B.C.G. for the prevention of tuberculosis, is given generally in this County, but all contacts of cases are asked to attend the Chest Clinic where they are given tests, and if necessary, they are vaccinated against the disease. Most babies who are contacts are given this protection when they are very young.

Routine testing and B.C.G. vaccination of school children has not been undertaken in the County up to date, but if a case occurs in a school, the children are tested (with the parents' consent) and followed up by X-ray examination, etc., and a search is made for the infecting person.

The source of infection is often found to be a person in the older age group, e.g., a grandparent, who does not know of the presence of the disease. Attendance of the whole population for X-ray examination during the visit of the Mass Radiography Unit to the area will go far in the discovery of such cases. Secondary cases are more likely now that open cases are living longer. Better housing conditions will help to reduce the incidence of the disease, particularly where there is overcrowding.

The co-operation of the general public is very essential for the success of eradicating tuberculosis from the community. Early diagnosis of cases will ensure that they are isolated, thus preventing the spread of the disease to others. It must be remembered that the presence of a case of tuberculosis is a danger to others at home and at work. The tracing of contacts and the original source of infection must be carried out immediately and treatment of all concerned must be carried out at the earliest possible moment. Early treatment will shorten the period of illness and enable the sufferer to return to work sooner.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE RURAL DISTRICT

LABORATORY SERVICE.

The Public Health Laboratory is at Conway.

Samples of water, milk and ice-cream are regularly sent there for bacteriological examination. Other types of bacteriological examinations are also carried out there to aid in the diagnosis of illness, e.g., food poisoning, scarlet fever, meningitis, etc.

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The whole service is controlled by the County Medical Officer of Health at Wrexham, but Denbigh and Llanrwst are under the jurisdiction of the Ambulance Sub-Office at Colwyn Bay. This has accounted for a reduction in the amount of Sitting-Case Car work.

There are four ambulance stations in the Western No. 2 Health Area situated at Denbigh, Ruthin, Llanrwst and Cerrigydrudion with one ambulance at each station. Each station is manned by voluntary personnel except at Denbigh where a full-time driver was appointed and he commenced duties on 9th January, 1956. To supplement the ambulances, use is made of voluntary drivers of the W.V.S. Hospital Car Service and local taxi proprietors for the conveyance of sitting cases. Ambulances for the conveyance of infectious cases are sent from the hospitals concerned at Wrexham and Colwyn Bay.

The ambulance station at Llangernyw is to be reopened in February, 1957, and will be manned by a full-time driver.

The following is given for the information of the Council and the numbers refer to cases conveyed by the various ambulances and the mileage covered during the year :—

Name of Ambulance	Area served	No. of cases Conveyed	Total Mileage
Cerrigydrudion	Upper Hiraethog	72	2,566
Denbigh	Denbigh Borough and parts of Aled R.D. and Ruthin R.D.	1,489	17,456
Llanrwst	Llanrwst and District	104	3,324
Ruthin	Ruthin Borough and Ruthin R.D.	506	9,739

CASES CONVEYED BY SITTING-CASE CARS

Month, 1956	Taxis		Miles	W.V.S.		Miles
	Journeys	Cases		Journeys	Cases	
January	170	474	7,506	55	147	2,303
February	158	505	7,449	30	120	1,693
March	133	455	6,373	37	106	1,902
April	130	436	6,494	32	135	1,639
May	160	456	7,199	37	162	2,004
June	143	444	6,593	38	210	2,273
July	168	577	8,460	32	164	1,882
August	138	464	6,995	36	212	2,148
September	113	340	5,956	37	124	1,677
October	127	172	5,288	37	141	1,957
November	118	353	5,194	37	187	1,970
December	94	288	3,947	21	97	1,149
Total	1,652	4,964	77,454	429	1,805	22,597

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

This service is under the supervision of the County Medical Officer of Health at Wrexham.

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINICS.

These clinics are held at Llanrwst, Colwyn Bay and Bala. The clinic held at Corwen has been closed.

The Colwyn Bay Clinic is held on alternate Thursdays with Surgeons from the Gobowen Orthopaedic Hospital attending once every three months. The clinic at Bala is held on the second and fourth Tuesday afternoons each month with the Surgeons from Gobowen Orthopaedic Hospital attending once every three months. The Llanrwst Clinic was reopened during the year at the Drill Hall and this is held on the second and fourth Tuesday mornings each month with Surgeons from the Gobowen Orthopaedic Hospital attending once every two months.

Clinics are also held weekly at hospitals at Rhyl, Colwyn Bay and Llandudno.

Patients from the rural district attend whichever clinic is the most convenient.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

These clinics are held at hospitals in Llandudno, Chester, Wrexham and Bangor.

TUBERCULOSIS CLINICS.

Patients attend the Chest Clinics held weekly at Llandudno, Rhyl and Denbigh, or by appointment at Grosvenor Road, Wrexham.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

This clinic is held on the second and fourth Tuesday mornings in each month at the Clinic, Watling Street, Llanrwst, and special cases referred from this clinic or from the patient's own doctor are seen at the Consultant Clinic held on alternate Thursday mornings.

The attendances at these Clinics during the year were as follows :—

	Routine Clinic	Consultant Clinic
1st Visits	14	16
Re-Visits	24	16
Post-Natal	1	15
Gynae	—	—
Total	39	47

The above figures also include patients from the Urban District.

A Clinic is held at the Jerusalem Chapel Schoolroom, Cerrigydrudion, on the first Friday morning each month, but no one attended for examination during the year.

Patients who are booked at St. Asaph Hospital for their confinement attend the clinic attached to that hospital on Monday afternoons.

INFANT WELFARE CLINICS.

Mothers take their babies to one of the five under-mentioned clinics which serve the rural district and the attendances at these clinics during the year were as follows :—

	Vists	Re-visits	Total	Clinics held
Llanrwst	87	1642	1729	Every Tuesday afternoon
Llangernyw	17	111	128	Last Thursday afternoon each month.
Cerrigydrudion ...	18	54	72	First Friday morning each month.
Glan Conway	28	586	614	Every fortnight on Mon- day afternoon.
Llansannan	7	134	141	Every second Thursday each month.

The above figures refer to the clinic attendances for various areas and not for children from Hiraethog Rural District only.

TRANSPORT TO CLINICS.

Transport has been arranged to take mothers and babies from certain areas to the Infant Welfare Clinics. The number of mothers and babies who were carried during the year was as follows :—

	No. of mothers	No. of babies
From Eglwysbach to Glan Conway	19	23
From Pandy Tudur and Gwytherin to Llangernyw	31	44
From Capel Garmon and Nebo to Llanrwst	22	22
From surrounding area to Llansannan	1	1

(This service was discontinued
in February.)

No transport is supplied to carry mothers and babies to Cerrig-y-Drudion Clinic.

DENTAL CLINICS.

This clinic is held once a month at the Clinic, Watling Street, Llanrwst, and cases are referred from the Ante-Natal and Infant Welfare Clinics.

The following figures show the number of cases treated during the year and include patients from the Urban District as well as from the Rural District :—

Number of cases referred for treatment	31
Number of cases completed treatment	44

NURSING SERVICES.

Number of Health Visitors	2 (Miss Foulkes and Nurse King).
Number of Tuberculosis Health Visitors	1 (Miss M. Thomas).
Number of District Nurses	4 (Nurse King, Pentrevoelas ; Nurse Ellwood, Tal-y-Cafn ; Nurse Munro, Cerrigydrudion ; Nurse Williams, Llangernyw).

Miss Foulkes covers Llanrwst Urban District as well as part of Hir-aethog and Aled Rural Districts. Nurse King covers part of the Upper Hiraethog area.

The Tuberculosis Health Visitor covers the Western half of the County.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

The number of domestic helps employed in the district during the year was seven.

The number of cases where domestic help was provided was as follows :

Maternity	2
Tuberculosis	1
Chronic Sick and Aged	2
Others	3
Total	8

Domestic Help Service can be a real boon, especially in the case of chronic sick and aged, as it may be possible in this manner to avoid action under Section 47, National Assistance Act, 1948. Unfortunately there is great difficulty in obtaining suitable domestic helps, especially when the cases to be helped live in remote places.

FOOD.

No. of food premises in the area :—

These consist of :—

	No. of	No. Visits Paid
Shops	39	121
Bakehouses	3	19
Public Houses	5	21
Hotels	7	18
Cafes	27	91
Bed and Breakfast Accommodation	18	6
School Canteens	13	43
Other Canteens	1	1
Stalls	NIL	NIL
Vans	29	12
Sausage Manufacturers and Preserved Foods (Registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955)	3	8
Dairies	NIL	NIL
Slaughterhouses	2	156
Ice Cream (Registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for site of)	10	18
Fried Fish Shops	NIL	NIL

All food preparing premises in the district have been visited and consideration given thereto in light of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955. Whilst much was expected of these Regulations, their shortcomings cannot but be described as an anti-climax. It is felt that they could be much stricter and helpful, especially for example in the case of mobile vans. With these the requirements are far more lenient than with fixed shops, although the danger of contamination in a mobile van is obviously greater. For that matter, a greater control over the distribution of food generally, and bread and meat in particular, would be welcomed—it may be later secured by Codes of Practice to cover each trade. Further difficulty in regard to vans is obtained due to the varying standards and requirements of adjoining authorities.

Practically all the food premises in the district are small family affairs, and occupiers have in the main been very co-operative. A fair amount of improvement has been obtained, but there is considerable difficulty in some cases due to the lack of proper water supply and drainage, whilst in some cases the structures themselves are unsuitable for food handling.

Full attention to food premises could not be paid during the year due to the more urgent requirements of Housing, but it is hoped to rectify this in 1957.

ICE CREAM.

No ice cream is manufactured in the district, and there are only 10 registrations for the sale of pre-packed ice cream. Five vehicles from adjoining areas retail ice cream in the district during the summer.

MILK.

There are no dealers' licences issued in the district. A recent check showed that there are 35 producer retailers in the area. These are categorised as :—

T.T. Milk Retailers	23
Undesignated Milk Retailers	12

It came to light during the period that there were no registrations with the M.A.F.F. for the manufacture of butter. The legal position is that the dairies and cowsheds of such manufacturers should comply with the standards as laid down for milk production generally, but it is fairly obvious that in some cases where the sale of milk is restricted due to the unsatisfactory state of the buildings and/or milking methods, the milk is churned and the butter retailed locally. This may happen in a few cases only, but it is a point to be rectified.

Samples of milk taken during the course of the year :—

Bacteriological (T.T.)	2—Satisfactory
Bacteriological (Undesignated)	2—Satisfactory
Biological (Undesignated)	2—Satisfactory

Mention must be made under this section of the school canteens. A very difficult problem arises in this direction as many are below standard, and in the case of Eglwysbach and Cerrigydrudion C.P. Schools especially, new canteens are required. It is to be hoped that the Education Authority will face this squarely and not hide behind the mask of financial inability. The money must be found and it is up to the County Council to give a lead to other food handlers by carrying out the statutory requirements.

Work carried out, or fixtures installed, since the last comprehensive report on schools in 1955, are as shown below. These include any other matters which require attention :—

EGLWYSBACH C.P.

Drainage has been connected to the main sewer and grease trap provided to receive kitchen sink waste. Refrigerator provided, together with new stove for cooking. The premises have been painted and decorated.

The conditions of this canteen are very poor and a new one is urgently required. The space is much too constructed, with inadequate provision for food storage and ventilation, and lighting is poor due to the very low headroom. Wash-hand basin together with ancillaries have not been provided. The average number of dinners served daily is around 50 which only serves to reiterate the unsatisfactory conditions, especially when it is realised that this kitchen is the kitchen of the caretaker's house of the Aberconway Institute.

LLANGERNYW CONTROLLED SCHOOL.

Wash-hand basin provided together with hot water system working from existing kitchen stove to provide piped hot water to this wash-hand basin and kitchen sink. New draining boards have been provided. The canteen requires urgent re-decorating. Refrigerator has also been provided. Drainage is still a problem with this canteen both with regard to waste water and closets, but it does not appear that this can be solved until the village is sewered.

LLANDDOGET SCHOOL.

Refrigerator has been provided and premises provided with mains electricity. The premises have been decorated and a wash-hand basin provided. Certain other minor improvements have also been carried out.

GWYTHERRIN SCHOOL.

New stove provided, together with back boiler and hot water system. Wash-hand basin installed. The open joisted ceilings have been covered in and whole of premises decorated.

CARMEL C.P. SCHOOL.

No canteen exists at this school. Food is brought up from the central kitchens at Llanrwst. An improvement was obtained with regard to drinking water in it being arranged to have it brought up daily from Llanrwst in containers during the delivery of school dinners.

TY'N-Y-FELIN SCHOOL.

Refrigerator provided together with hot water system worked from kitchen stove so as to supply hot water above kitchen sink. Wash-hand basin installed.

CERRIGYDRUDION SCHOOL.

A new free standing stove has been supplied together with hot water system to provide piped hot water to kitchen sink and also to newly-installed wash-hand basin. Ventilation to external air provided to larder and also to canteen kitchen. New electrical hot-plate has also been provided for canteen use. The premises have been cleansed and re-decorated and painted.

Whilst the conditions at this canteen have improved they are not really satisfactory, and a new canteen is the only answer.

DINMAEL C.P. SCHOOL.

Refrigerator provided together with provision made for piped hot water above kitchen sink. Wash-hand basin to be fixed in near future. Minor repairs have been carried out to the floor, etc. Piped hot water to kitchen sink supplied through cylinder connected to new free standing cooking range. Canteen now on mains water.

PENTRELLYNCYMER C.P. SCHOOL.

Refrigerator has been provided. Hot water system connected to kitchen range has been carried out so as to supply hot water over kitchen sink. In view of the small number of children attending the school the facilities can be regarded as satisfactory.

CAPEL GARMON C.P. SCHOOL.

New cooking range provided and also a refrigerator.

UNSOUND FOOD SEIZED DURING THE YEAR.

The following undermentioned articles were seized during the year as being unfit for human consumption :—

- 3 lbs. Pork Chipolata Sausages.
- 1 dozen Pork Pies.
- 1 dozen 6 ozs. Steak and Kidney Pies.
- 1 dozen Cornish Pasties.
- 1 Special Large Black Pudding.
- 2 x 14½ ozs. Peeled Tomatoes—(Italy).
- 4 x 1 lb. 3 ozs. Pickering Garden Peas.
- 4 x 16 ozs. Vegetable Soup.
- 6 x 13 ozs. Fruit Salad.
- 4 x 1 lb. 3 ozs. Bartlett Pears.
- 2 x 7 ozs. Tins Grape Fruit Sections.
- 2 x 7 ozs. Tins Luncheon Meat—(Holland).
- 1 x 16 ozs. Raspberries in Syrup.
- 7 x 8 ozs. Tins Luncheon Meat.
- 2 x 1 lb. 3 ozs. Tins Peas.
- 3 x A1 Fruit Salad.
- 6 x 1 lb. 3 ozs. Apricot Salad.
- 1 x A1 Fruit Salad—(N. Ireland).
- 4 x 1 lb. 13 ozs. Cling Peaches.
- 1 x 16 ozs. Raspberries.

Unsound food is disposed of by burying on Council's Refuse Tip.

FOOD AND DRUG SAMPLING.

Below are particulars of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, in the HIRAETHOG RURAL DISTRICT during the year ended 31st December, 1956. These were obtained from the Chief Weights and Measures Inspector of the County of Denbigh, who is the responsible person as appointed under the Act :—

Article	No. Taken	Genuine	Not Genuine, or Sub-Standard
MILK	7	7	—
Margarine	1	1	—
Tinned Peas	1	1	—
Meat Paste	1	1	—
Beer	1	—	1
Gin	1	1	—
TOTALS	12	11	1

As will be observed from the above Table one sample was certified by the Public Analyst to be "Not Genuine." This was a sample of Draught Beer which was found to contain 2 parts per million of lead. Although very undesirable, the Analyst assured me that lead in such a minute quantity would be quite harmless. However, I visited the licensee and he readily agreed to instal plastic pipes to replace all the existing leaden ones and he has since done so.

All the other samples were certified by the Public Analyst to be genuine and free from all prohibited preservatives and colouring matter.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep or Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	36	7	4	1127	39	—
Number inspected	36	7	4	1127	39	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci—						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	2	2	—	19	—	—
Percentage of the number affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	5.6	5.6	—	1.06	—	—
Tuberculosis only—						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis	2.8	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis—						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

The quality of the meat was generally good and the seizures very low, as will be seen by the accompanying table.

There are only two private slaughter houses in the district, and each comes up to a fairly good standard, but improvements are still being effected. Whilst the proposal of the Ministry with regard to "Moderate centralised slaughter" is still awaited for, as regards this district, these two slaughter houses, with their small number of killings and convenience to the district, are considered quite ideal. The volume of slaughter appears now to be diminishing, especially as far as beef is concerned, the butchers apparently coming to rely more on the Fatstock Marketing Corporation.

RODENT CONTROL.

The arrangement for the employment of a whole-time operator shared on a half-time basis with Nant Conway R.D.C. functioned satisfactorily.

Heavy infestations are becoming rare, and indeed at one part of the year one began to feel inclined to believe that even light infestations were a thing of the past.

The figures for 1956 show an appreciable drop in heavy infestations, e.g., 1956-8, 1955-63. The public are also beginning to realise the losses which can be sustained by rats—systematic inspection is a contributing factor in this respect. Rodent Control must necessarily entail repetative inspection, and whilst outwardly it only appears to play a small part in the functions of a Local Authority, its importance in the prevention of disease must not be overlooked. Rats are a menace, not only due to the soiling of food (estimated at £1 per rat per annum) but also from the dangers of ill-health through various diseases they can carry, e.g., Fowl Dysentery, Food Poisoning, Weils Disease, Rat Bite Fever, Swine Fever, Fowl Pest, and Foot and Mouth Disease.

The fact that the latter three diseases can be spread by rats should make the agricultural population especially anxious to eradicate rats.

During the year the Council resolved not to charge domestic premises, and in addition resolved to make yearly contracts with business and agricultural properties. So far 12 contracts have been made.

The following table indicates work carried out under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, during the year :—

TYPE OF PROPERTY

18

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (including business premises)	Total (Cols. 1, 2 and 4)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2)	16	1006	681	285	1807
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of :					
(a) Notification	—	23	33	8	31
(b) Survey under the Act	16	461	236	236	713
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose)	—	18	7	6	24
3. Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections ...	192	601	668	244	1037
4. Number of properties inspected (in Section II) which were found to be infested by :					
(a) Rats—Major	—	—	5	3	3
(a) Rats—Minor	15	16	62	14	45
(b) Mice—Major	—	—	45	—	—
(b) Mice—Minor	—	36	23	24	60
5. Number of infested properties (in Section IV) treated by the Local Authority	15	52	29	11	78
6. Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments ...	32	64	—	13	109
7. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act :					
(a) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing)	—	—	—	—	—
8. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
9. Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
10. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	—	—	—	—	—

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Collection : Once per fortnight (with certain exceptions) :

Premises from which refuse removed	1,028
Loads carried	484
Total cost	£1,246
Cost per load removed	£2/11/6
Cost per property	£1/4/2
Total mileage (2 lorries)	6,907 miles
No. vehicles used	2
No. men employed	4
Mileage per gallon (average 2 lorries)	8.8

For collection purposes the district is divided into two parts, each being collected in alternate weeks so as to have only lorry and two men free for another work.

Tips are situated at Capel Garmon, Pentrevoelas, Cerrigydrudion, Hafod (Betws-y-Coed), Llanddoget, Pandy Tudur (Llansannan Road), and Eglwysbach. Tipping is carried out as far as possible in adherence with the rules for controlled tipping, and each tip is periodically baited and kept free of rodent infestation.

Night Soil is collected fortnightly in the villages of Capel Garmon and Nebo.

HOUSING.

4 houses and 2 bungalows were completed during the year at Melin-y-Coed, together with 6 houses at Eglwysbach. The proposed housing scheme for Cerrigydrudion failed to materialise due to the high cost of building, which, coupled with high rates of interest for loan borrowing would have made the rents unjustifiably high compared with the average earnings in the district. It was resolved, however, to proceed to erect 6 one-bedroomed old people's bungalows, these to be constructed on the old P.O.W. camp at Cerrigydrudion—this site already being supplied with water and drainage facilities. It was additionally resolved to erect 10 houses if a suitable tender could be obtained.

The impossibility of erecting new houses hampers the slum clearance programme. Tentative Clearance Areas have been earmarked for Cerrigydrudion, Capel Garmon and Yspty Ifan. In order to offset these inabilities as regard Clearance Areas, the Council has made every effort to implement action under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936, where appropriate, and also to enforce repairs to premises. Additionally, every attempt is being made to publicise and to implement the Housing Act, 1954, and to give grants for modernising and re-conditioning of old properties. Endeavour is made, where appropriate, for bad farm houses to take advantage of the Hill Farming and Livestock Rearing Act, 1949, to improve their dwelling. Close co-operation with the A.E.C. in this respect has been very encouraging. The present position is such that any farm house now registered under the Hill Farming Act and Livestock Rearing Act, must ultimately be brought to the "desirable standard" of the Housing Acts, 1949/54.

A total of 217 farms in the district are now registered under the Hill Farming and Livestock Rearing Act, whilst a total of 17 houses have been approved for grant under the Housing Acts, 1949/54, totalling £5,546. Of the 243 houses in the district which have been graded as unfit for habitation and cannot be repaired at a reasonable expense, 56 have been successfully dealt with to date.

The following proposals of revised figures for action in five years, based on a comprehensive survey of every house in the district were submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. This Survey meant the measuring up of every room, cubic space and window areas, together with complete report of defects, and finally classifying into one of four groups. These figures were considered by Parish Committees consisting of the District

Councillors together with representatives of the Denbighshire Agriculture Executive Committee, to discuss the condition of farm houses. Following this they were submitted to the Council for approval.

Total Number of permanent dwellings in the Local Authority's area 1,648

Part 1. The total problem.

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (I) Estimated number of houses unfit for human habitation within the meaning of Section 9 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, and suitable for action under Section 11, or Section 25, of the Housing Act, 1936 | 243 |
| (II) Period in years which the Council think necessary for securing the demolition of all the houses in (1) | 10 |

Part 2. Orders already made, etc.

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (III) Number of houses in (I) in clearance areas and already covered by operative clearance or compulsory purchase orders or owned by the Local Authority | 12 |
| (IV) Number of houses which are already in clearance areas and for which clearance or compulsory purchase orders have been submitted to the Minister but have not yet become operative | NIL |

Part 3. Action in the first five years.

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (V) Number of houses which are already in clearance areas and for which clearance or compulsory purchase orders are to be made or which are to be purchased by agreement within the five years | NIL |
| (VI) Number of houses which are to be included in clearance areas still to be declared and which within the five years will be owned by the Local Authority or will have been included in a clearance order or compulsory purchase order submitted to the Minister | 50 |
| (VII) Number of houses under (III), (IV), (V) and (VI) to be patched (if necessary) and retained within the five years under Section 2 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, for temporary accommodation | NIL |
| (VIII) Number of houses under (III), (IV), (V) and (VI) to be demolished in the five years | 62 |
| (IX) Number of houses (including those already comprised in operative demolition orders) to be demolished in the five years as a result of action under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936 | 45 |

The Council has felt great concern with the inability of the smaller upland farms to be included under the Hill Farming and Livestock Rearing Acts, and every endeavour is being made to bring this point to bear on the responsible bodies. It is to be hoped that this action will bear fruit in due course, and that the argument of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in that it can only consider economical units will vere from that of purely a pecuniary aspect, to that of considering these units for their value of providing labour reservoirs for the larger farms during harvest time, as stepping stones to a larger unit, and also as an aid to arresting the drift from the countryside by fostering a love of the countryside to any child who might be brought up on a smallholding.

Speaking generally, however, many an occupier must be brought to realise that an improved housing standard cannot but be realised by an increase in rent. Equally he must realise that this increase in rent bears no ultimate comparison with comfort and improvement to health. Cases are brought to mind of the person who prefers to live in an insanitary cottage with lack of amenities and travelling miles to work rather than occupying a cottage modernised and with all amenities and close to his work purely because the rent of one is around 3/6 per week in comparison with 20/- to 25/- for the other. Equally the case of the farmer who refuses a justifiable

increase for modernisation of his house. Rents of farm houses are exceptionally difficult problems. Whatever the difficulties of farming economically, it does seem sensible to consider that the rent of a farm house should be separate from the land. In many a case the farmer pays less for his house and land than his labourer living in a Local Authority house in the nearby village.

The accompanying tables show results of the Housing Survey, and analysis and synopsis of the figures :—

HOUSING SURVEY OF PARISHES

	Eglwysbach	Llangernyw	Llanrwst Rural	Llandoget	Gwytherin	Cerrigydrudion	Llanfihangel G.M.	Tir Ifan	Pentrevoelas	Llangwm
Properties inspected	232	201	313	66	63	232	90	43	125	177
Population according to Survey										
Total	635	539	770	189	190	641	276	126	368	531
Persons per house	2.7	2.7	2.2	2.9	3.0	2.27	3.1	2.9	2.9	3.01
Water Supply :										
Mains Supply, internal on premises	116	55	20	—	18	93	18	11	22	9
Mains Supply, external on premises	5	7	5	—	—	3	1	—	3	—
Mains Supply communal standpipe	5	6	8	6	2	41	3	14	4	2
Own piped supply, internal	48	56	125	25	13	30	18	14	20	79
Own piped supply, external	8	5	4	4	3	5	6	—	1	14
Carried from Wells and Springs ...	49	72	143	29	26	53	41	4	65	68
River water only	—	—	2	—	1	7	3	—	—	5
No water supply	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Private supply communal standpipe	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	6	—
Private Supply Communal Stand- pipe	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	6	—
Piped hot water supply	66	56	88	13	16	70	17	13	18	56
Sanitation :										
No. of premises using communal W.C. (mains)	—	—	7	—	—	22	—	—	—	4
No. premises using communal P.C.	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	7	—	2
Main Sewer	50	—	9	—	9	51	3	—	—	10
Septic Tank	38	46	75	12	7	34	8	5	19	34
Earth and Pail Closets	57	75	162	31	27	63	56	25	62	49
Privy Vaults	52	34	28	9	16	42	15	—	20	59
Closets over Stream	—	—	5	2	—	3	2	—	11	2
Chemical Closets	31	40	23	12	3	7	6	5	13	14
No Closet accommodation	4	6	4	—	1	—	—	1	—	1
Sinks	168	111	165	37	34	131	62	25	65	103
Baths	51	48	81	11	14	57	13	7	18	38
Food Store (Larder)	60	35	107	18	8	43	18	10	38	38
Dairy attached to house	33	34	45	9	25	51	35	4	23	65
Electricity :										
Main	100	—	44	39	—	45	11	25	—	41
Own Supply	6	33	35	—	5	36	20	3	6	20
Calor Gas	2	16	45	7	2	25	14	2	18	20
Categories :										
1	79	47	88	13	11	52	21	9	28	59
2	103	95	135	33	33	105	49	17	71	94
3	24	22	27	8	10	36	12	9	12	11
4	26	37	63	12	9	39	8	8	14	13

NOTE—These figures do not take into account Council-owned property.

ANALYSIS OF CLASSES — FARMS AND DWELLING HOUSES

	Farms				Dwelling Houses				
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	Total
Llandoget	5	6	4	2	8	27	4	10	66
Llanrwst Rural	30	79	19	17	58	56	8	47	314
Eglwysbach	14	47	16	9	65	56	8	17	232
Gwytherin	5	20	8	6	6	13	2	3	63
Llangernyw	18	57	12	16	29	38	10	21	201
Pentrevoelas	7	35	2	1	21	36	10	13	125
Cerrigydrudion	12	52	11	6	40	53	25	34	233
Tir Ifan	4	8	1	2	5	9	8	6	43
Llangwm	17	62	8	4	42	32	8	9	177
Llanfihangel G.M.	13	33	9	4	8	16	3	4	90
	125	399	90	67	282	336	81	164	1544

Total Farms Surveyed	681
Total Dwelling Houses Surveyed	863
Total Premises Surveyed	1,544
Total Farms and Dwelling Houses—Class 1	407
Total Farms and Dwelling Houses—Class 2	735
Total Farms and Dwelling Houses—Class 3	171
Total Farms and Dwelling Houses—Class 4	231

(plus 12 bought by the Council)

(Total problem of houses regarded as unfit and incapable of repair at a reasonable expense.)

SYNOPSIS OF HOUSES IN CLASS IV

A.

	Farms	Dwelling Houses	Total
1. Houses action already taken	5	51	56
2. Vacant and/or action can be taken ...	14	30	44
3. Vacant, summer use only	—	7	7
4. Over 70s or late 60s	2	32	34
5. Included in Hill Farming Scheme	12	—	12
6. Crux of problem to solve	34	56	90
7. No. which can be included in Clearance Areas	—	62	62

Total houses submitted as unfit amount to 243, of these action has already been taken in 44 cases plus another 12 bought in Yspty Ifan, this leaves at present a total of 187 houses to be dealt with under Class IV.

B. CLEARANCE AREAS.

62 houses have been tentatively included as possible to deal with under Clearance Areas. Of these, however, 12 are at present vacant and owned by the Council, leaving 50 to be dealt with. Of this latter figure, however, only 34 are occupied and only 23 can be regarded as urgent cases, being inhabited by young families.

The main Clearance Area schemes are in the villages of Cerrigydrudion, Yspty Ifan and Capel Garmon.

C. SYNOPSIS OF HOUSES IN CLASS III.

	Farms	Dwelling Houses	Total
1. Houses action already taken	1	6	7
2. Vacant and/or action can be taken	7	8	15
3. Vacant, summer use only	—	1	1
4. Over 70s or late 60s	5	7	12
5. Included in Hill Farming Scheme	24	—	24
6. Crux of problem to solve	52	51	103
7. No. which can be included in Clearance Areas	—	—	—

HILL FARMING.

Parish by parish the figures for Hill Farming Registration are as follows:

Eglwysbach	19
Llanddoget	NIL
Llanrwst Rural	35
Llangernyw	27
Gwytherin	23
Tir Ifan	11
Pentrevoelas	17
Cerrigydrudion	32
Llangwm	35
Llanfihangel G.M.	18

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

FACTORIES : The following indicates work carried out during the year—

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	10	16	1	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	17	21	2	—	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' Premises)	3	3	3	—	—	3
TOTAL		30	40	3	—	

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecution were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	1	1	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient	9	2	2	—	—	—	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	—	—	—	—	—	10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	—	—	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
TOTAL	60	3	3	—	—	—	60

SCHOOLS.

No. Elementary Schools	13
No. Modern Secondary Schools	1
No. Private Schools	1
No. Visits made	66

Improvement has become apparent to the schools since the comprehensive report thereon was made in 1955. These are noted together with other listed improvements intended in the Financial Year 1957/58.

EGLWYSBACH C.P.

New annexe being built which contain boys' and girls' conveniences together with cloakroom facilities, etc. Since the making of the report three temporary wash-hand basins have been supplied with water supply over. A new free standing combustion stove has been provided in infants' classroom and a new false ceiling has also been constructed. The whole premises have been thoroughly decorated and painted. With the completion of the present works the school will reach a decent standard.

LLANGERNYW CONTROLLED SCHOOL.

Repairs and improvements have been carried out to the floors and plastering of walls. The external walls of the school have been rendered with yard area fenced.

LLANDDOGET SCHOOL.

Yard re-surfaced with certain improvements to the sanitary conveniences. The condition of the latter however is still very unsatisfactory and a new annexe is urgently required. Central heating provided and building connected to mains electricity supply. Certain other repair work also executed.

GWYTHERIN SCHOOL.

School buildings are well maintained, with new sanitary annexe functioning satisfactorily. Yard has been re-surfaced.

CARMEL C.P. SCHOOL.

A new free standing stove has been provided and heating of classroom has considerably improved. Arrangements have been made whereby drinking water is brought up daily from Llanrwst in containers during the delivery of school dinners. I am informed that the Education Authorities intend providing a piped water supply from a nearby farm during this Financial Year. No improvements have been carried out to the sanitary conveniences which are very unsatisfactory. The condition is difficult to remedy as the premises are owned by the Chapel.

TY'N-Y-FELIN C.P. SCHOOL.

Minor repairs to lavatories and fabric of school have been carried out.

CERRIGYDRUDION SCHOOL.

New windows with enlarged lighting ratios have been provided in upper and lower schools. Both schools have been re-decorated and painted together with ancillary repairs. Three new wash-hand basins have been provided to both upper and lower schools. The yard has been re-surfaced with improved accesses. The footpath along the A.5 road between upper and lower schools has been re-surfaced, with a new barrier rail provided.

DINMAEL C.P. SCHOOL.

The premises have been supplied with mains water and since the last inspection they have been completely re-decorated.

PENTRELLYNCYMER C.P. SCHOOL.

Minor repairs have been carried out to the sanitary conveniences which now work satisfactorily.

CAPEL GARMON.

Free standing stoves have been provided for each classroom and are relatively satisfactory. Wash-hand basins have been provided in cloak-room. The school has been provided with drains and septic tank, but due lack of water supply, chemical closets are still used but provision is made for immediate conversion as soon as a constant water supply is available.

SEWERAGE DISPOSAL AND DRAINAGE.

No new schemes were completed during the year but the scheme for Pentrevoelas was commenced upon. It is hoped that the scheme for Pandy Tudur and Nebo will be commenced in 1957, and possibly that for the village of Llangernyw—each having reached an advanced stage of preparation. The joint scheme for Yspty Ifan with the Nant Conway R.D.C. may also see commencement in 1957.

No. Visits and Inspections	401
No. Informal Notices served	96
No. Statutory Notices served	14
No. Houses W.C. installed	36
No. Houses Baths installed	38
No. Houses Wash-hand Basins installed	31
No. Houses Belfast Sink and waste Drainage	48

There is no doubt that Improvement Grants under the Housing Act and Grants under the Hill Farming and Livestock Rearing Acts have materially helped the progress.

WATER SUPPLY.

No. Visits and Inspections	392
Samples taken from Public Supplies	27
Samples taken from Private Supplies	28
Satisfactory Samples from Private Supplies	15
New connections to Council's Mains	{
Approved domestic connections from private sources }	47

Shortage of water was again felt during the year. Water supply is the most serious problem in the district, and the key to solving many of its problems. The answer, of course, lies in the Llyn Conwy Scheme, and it is probable that the Order will be confirmed in its respect in the coming year.

The Dinmael and Maerdy Scheme was completed during the year. This scheme of 4,940 yards of 4-in. A.C. pipes is a tapping from the Edeyrnion R.D.C./Birkenhead supply. It supplies 8 farms, 1 shop, a school, hotel and 40 houses.

Every scheme of water supply now constructed is made so as to be an integral part of the Llyn Conwy Scheme.

Near future schemes are :—

Llanfihangel G.M.

An extension of the existing 1,500 yards 3-in. A.C. Birkenhead Mains Supply to the village of Llanfihangel G.M. This further " leg " is intended to supply 2 dwelling houses and 5 farm houses. The scheme should be commenced and completed in 1957.

Rhydydan.

Development has been further hampered, but it should be commenced in 1957. The scheme is in the hands of Messrs. Howard Humphreys, Engineers, London.

Capel Garmon.

This scheme has been approved by the Ministry and it is hoped that tenders will be invited in 1957. The scheme is urgently required, the area being in dire need of a proper water supply. The scheme is in the hands of Messrs. Howard Humphreys, Engineers, London.

Llanddoget.

The Council's Consulting Engineers, Messrs. Howard Humphreys & Sons, London, have been engaged to enquire into the possibility of a scheme for the area.

Farm Schemes.

It is gratifying to note that 18 farms executed their own water supply schemes during the year. It is surprising how many farm premises have an adequate supply of water rising on their own land. Even where this is not apparent, boring has yielded surprising results.

In parts per million of water.

Chemical Analysis

	Pentrefoelas	Melinycoed	Ysptyt Ilan	Llangernyw	Gwytherin	Llanfhanngel G.M.	Pandy Tudur	Eglwysbach	Cerrigydrudion
Total solid matter in solution ...	60.0	120.0	60.0	100.0	80.0	60.0	120.0	80.0	40.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates	1.0	1.25	1.0	1.00	1.3	0.38	1.00	0.38	0.2
Nitrites	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chlorine in Chlorides	13.0	16.0	10.0	18.0	12.0	10.0	10.0	14.0	11.0
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hours at 80° F ...	0.27	Nil	0.94	Organic matter	Organic matter	1.5	0.24	2.27	—
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.04	—	Nil	0.04	0.02
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.02	Nil	—	0.01	0.02	—	Nil	0.15	0.01
Lead, Copper, Zinc	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	—	Nil	Nil	Nil
Microscopical examination of the sediment	Nil	Nil	Minute amount	Nil	Small amount Sandy Sediment	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Temporary Hardness	30.0	70.0	25.0	30.0	30.0	2.5	2.1	15.0	Nil
Permanent Hardness	15.0	35.0	15.0	40.0	Nil	1.0	0.3	Nil	30.0
pH Value	6.6	6.6	6.2	6.8	7.0	8.2	5.5	6.8	6.2
pH after Calcium Carbonate ...	7.0	6.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Alkalinity to Methyl Orange ...	30.0	70.0	25.0	30.0	30.0	—	—	—	—
Calcium salts as Ca	18.0	42.0	16.0	28.0	12.0	—	—	—	—
Magnesium salts as Mg	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	1.0	—	—	—	—
Lead dissolved in 24 hours	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.2	1.0 (In 48 hours)	—	—	—	—
Action on copper in 24 hours ...	2.2	2.8	2.0	1.6	0.6 (In 48 hours)	—	—	—	—

BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

Name of Supply and Date Sampled	Plate Count. Yeastrel Agar. 2 days at 37 deg. C. Per 1 ml.	Probable No. of B. Coli Test 2 days at 37 deg. C. per 100 ml.	Approx. No. of Faecal and Non-Faecal Coli. Per 100 ml.		Remarks
			Faecal	Non-Faecal	
Pandy Tudur Mains Supply 28-2-56	7	0	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
1-10-56	6	0	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
4-12-56	3	0	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Llangernyw Mains Supply ... 28-2-56	5	0	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
1-10-56	4	0	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
5-12-56	3	0	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Pentrefoelas Mains Supply ... 26-2-56	6	0	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
5-12-56	4	0	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Yspyty Ifan Mains Supply ... 21-3-56	18	0	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
12-12-56	6	0	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Glasfryn Mains Supply ... 25-9-56	3	0	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Cerrigydudion Mains Supply 25-9-56	6	0	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Eglwysbach Mains Supply ... 26-3-56	4	0	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
26-3-56	5	0	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
26-3-56	5	0	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
26-3-56	3	0	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
1-10-56	5	0	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
1-10-56	2	0	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Capel Garmon Wells—					
Old Council Houses ... 26-3-56	14	0	0	0	Satisfactory.
Mountain View ... 26-3-56	11	0	0	0	Satisfactory.
Wesleyan Chapel ... 16-4-56	9	0	0	0	Fairly Satisfactory.
Llangwm Mains Supply ... 25-9-56	15	5	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Gwytherin Mains Supply ... 17-5-56	5	0	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Melnycoed Mains Supply ... 26-3-56	3	0	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Nebo Mains Supply ... 3-1-56	2	2	0	0	Satisfactory.
Rhydydan Public Well ... 4-1-56	15	5	0	0	Showed small number of coliform organisms none of which appeared to be of faecal origin.

The undermentioned tabulates the number and nature of inspections carried out by the Public Health Inspector during the year :—

GENERAL SUMMARY :

Complaints received	140
Nuisances discovered	406
Informal Notices served	401
Statutory Notices served	39
Informal Notices abated	382

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS :

Visits to Tents, Vans and Sheds	2
,, ,, Factories and Workplaces	40
,, ,, Bakehouses	11
,, ,, Public Conveniences	6
,, ,, Licensed Premises	39
Visits re Refuse Collection and Disposal	191
,, ,, Rats and Mice	107
Visits to Schools	66
,, ,, Butchers' Shops	36
,, ,, Other Shops and Stalls	136
,, ,, Sewerage Works	21
Visits re, Water Supply	398
,, ,, Drainage	401
,, ,, Housing Inspections	786
,, ,, Infectious Disease	41
,, ,, Canteens	52
Visits to Milk Distributors	8
Visits re Milk Sampling	6
Visits to Food Preparing Premises	406
,, ,, Ice Cream Premises	18
Miscellaneous Visits	201
Visits re Meat Inspection	156
Total	3,128

